

U.S. Department  
of Transportation

United States  
Coast Guard



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NMC Policy Letter 18-02  
17 December 2002

From: Commanding Officer, USCG National Maritime Center  
To: Distribution

Subj: CANCELLATION OF POLICY LETTER 11-01

Ref: (a) National Maritime Center (NMC) Policy Letter 09-01, *Evaluating Experience Aboard Commercial Vessels That Do Not Get Underway Or That Get Underway For Only Limited Periods*

1. PURPOSE.

- a. This policy letter cancels National Maritime Center (NMC) Policy Letter 11-01.
- b. The guidance in this document may assist industry and individual mariners to meet the sea service requirements of the regulations. This guidance is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is not intended to, nor does it impose, legally-binding requirements on any party. Applicants for the credentials addressed in this policy letter may propose alternatives to qualify for these credentials. Such alternatives should be forwarded to the U. S. Coast Guard National Maritime Center for evaluation against the regulatory standards.

2. ACTION.

- a. Commanding officers of units with a Regional Examination Center (REC) shall be guided by the information in this policy letter.
- b. Commanding officers of units with marine safety responsibilities should bring this policy letter to the attention of the maritime industry and to institutions within their area of responsibility that offer U. S. Coast Guard approved training. This policy letter will be distributed by electronic means only. It is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.uscg.mil/STCW/m-policy.htm>.

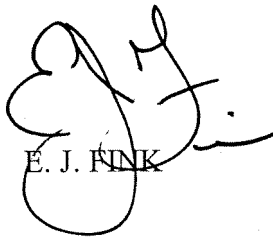
3. DISCUSSION.

- a. NMC Policy Letter 11-01 temporarily suspended the provisions of reference (a) for further study to determine its applicability to personnel serving on liftboats. That study is now complete. There was insufficient information to justify continued exemption of liftboat personnel from the requirements of reference (a).
- b. This issue was also submitted to the Merchant Marine Personnel Advisory Committee (MERPAC) for review and recommendation. At their meeting in Cleveland, Ohio, in

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September, 2002, MERPAC recommended that liftboat personnel be subject to the full provisions of reference (a). The Coast Guard concurs with MERPAC's recommendations.

- c. Liftboat service acquired on or before 31 December 2002 will be credited at the rate of one day of service on a liftboat for one day of sea service. If the service was performed for 12 hours per day, then it shall be credited at the rate of one-and-one-half days of credit for one day of service.
- d. Beginning 1 January 2003, service on liftboats shall be credited as specified in reference (a).



E. J. FINK

Dist: Commandant (G-MSO)  
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